



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Jian Zhou, Hua Chu  
Assignee: Nanometrics Incorporated  
Title: Method for Automatically De-Skewing of Multiple Layer Wafer for Improved Pattern Recognition  
Serial No.: 09/974,721 Filing Date: October 9, 2001  
Examiner: Kevin Siangchin Group Art Unit: 1765  
Docket No.: NAN050 US Confirmation No.: 7841

Santa Clara, California  
December 20, 2004

MS AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In Response to the Office Action dated December 8, 2004, Applicants elect without traverse to have the invention of Group I, Claims 1-8, 9-16 and 22, examined. Please withdraw from consideration Claims 17 and 23, which are drawn to the invention of Group II and Claims 18-21, which are drawn to the invention of Group III. Applicants reserve the right to seek examination of the invention of Groups II and III in a divisional application.

It is believed that no fees are due. Nevertheless, if the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Patent Owner petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with this filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-2263** referencing M-11928 US.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 982-8200, ext. 2.

**Via Express Mail Label No.  
EV 450 194 384 US**

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Halbert  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 40,633

SILICON VALLEY  
PATENT GROUP LLP  
2350 Mission College Blvd.  
Suite 360  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
(408) 982-8200  
FAX (408) 982-8210



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Application Number	09/974,721
Filing Date	October 9, 2001
First Inventor	Jian Zhou
Confirmation No.	7841
Group Art Unit	1765
Examiner Name	Kevin Siangchin
Attorney Docket No.	NAN050 US

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## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

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Michael J. Halbert (Reg. No. 40,633)  
Silicon Valley Patent Group LLP  
2350 Mission College Boulevard, Suite 360  
Santa Clara, California 95054

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*Michael J. Halbert*

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